# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:601
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
NRHM
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) number of villages required to have an Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) at present under the National Rural Health Mission and number of villages actually having such activists;

(b) whether the Government has any plans to increase the ASHA staff per village to ensure better coverage; and

(c) details of review and monitoring mechanism for appraising the work of ASHA?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): Public Health is a State subject. Under the National Health Mission (NHM), support is provided to States/UTs for strengthening their healthcare system including for Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) based on proposals received from State/UT governments. As per the guidelines, ASHAs are to be selected based on population norm of one ASHA per 1000 population except in tribal, hilly and desert areas where the norm can be relaxed to one ASHA per habitation, depending on the workload, geographic dispersion, and difficult terrain. The information on ASHAs is not maintained village-wise. However, the State-wise information on number of ASHAs selected as on March, 2016 is at Annexure.

(c): The review mechanism for ASHA programme has been outlined in the guidelines, as follows:
i) ASHA facilitator visits every ASHA at least once a month for on the job mentoring and supportive supervision.
ii) Monthly meeting of ASHA and facilitators is held at PHC level.
iii) Monthly review meeting of ASHA facilitators is organized with Block coordinators at block level and of block coordinators with district community mobilizer at district level.

In addition, other block, district and state level programme officials also review the ASHA programme during field visits and review meetings.